

For Boston Anniversaries, Notices of Good's Anti-Tractarian work, the Hamilton Papers &c. with the Celebration of Fourier's Birth-day in Paris, &c. see First Page.

For the last Edinburgh Review's remarks on America and Americans, see Last Page.

Election Laws and Frauds.

We trust all our readers have perused already the President of our City's Grand Jury which appeared in yesterday's Tribune; but they will not the less oblige us by recurring to the paper and reading that President once more. It is a curious and instructive document, especially when its secret history is traced. This Grand Jury, it was well known beforehand, would be called to pass on the enormous outrages on the Right of Suffrage committed by many of our Loco-Foco city functionaries in the last Election; and accordingly, as was to be expected, it was constituted almost exclusively of Loco-Focoes. Eight of its members, we are reliably informed, were taken from the "Pewter Mug" grocery, under the wing of Tammany Hall. Thus constituted, an overwhelming mass of demagogic testimony in exposure of the Blackwell's Island and Eighth Ward villanies was laid before this Grand Jury—all regularly sworn before eminent magistrates of the city. But not a single bill is found thereon! Instead of this, our worthy Grand Jurors travel out of their way to bestow an extra coat of whitewash on the management of the Blackwell's Island establishment, the Alms House, &c. and especially on their superintendents, and then proceed to smooth over the Election Frauds as skillfully and gingerly as possible. Having already observed that the practices of Aldermen, Special Justices, &c. discharging convicts from Blackwell's Island is an unlawful one and that "the extent to which it has been recently practiced leads to the unavoidable suspicion of gross improprieties," and so got along with that part of the business they now lay, they, an inquiring into alleged Election Frauds, they

"Find that every individual who gave into any Ward, from those where they usually reside, and by a temporary residence at a few days, has been deemed to be qualified and allowed to vote. The Grand Jurors have been so great a deal in the Rights Law."

"So, gentlemen," you have found this, have you? We can certify that you were not compelled to look far or sharp for it. Well! You have got hold of the regius that have annulled the legal electors of the Eighth Ward out of their choice of officers! Let us now see how you rain down upon them!"

"And yet such is the looseness of the election law in our State that a 'legal residence' at that time seems to be no more than a mere technicality, and that a person who has been a resident of a few days, has been deemed to be qualified and allowed to vote. The Grand Jurors have been so great a deal in the Rights Law."

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The Unfranchised Rhode Islanders.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

In your leading article of Tuesday the 24th, you say—

"The authority exercised by Government over Minors—who form a majority of our Population—is not based upon any express consent on their part to the laws to which they are held amenable. So of the same authority exercised over Women. Here, then, we find that the Government has no right to interfere with the rights of the individual, and no law to enforce it."

Now I hold that Women and Minors are as fully represented in this State as their husbands and fathers. I have no interest distinct from that of my wife and children: I therefore represent them faithfully—far more faithfully than I myself have ever been represented by our officeholders in Rhode Island, and in the aristocracies of the Old World, the case is very different. There the powers of Government are wielded by an exclusive class, whose pecuniary interest it is to plunder and enslave their subjects.

There is another point in the Rhode Island case of which you lose sight. The People of that State were not called on to amend or alter an existing Constitution, for they had none to amend. In casting off the authority of England, our fathers necessarily nullified all the laws and grants emanating from that power. The People, it is true, decreed that many of the royal laws and grants should continue in force; but this fact only shows that such grants as they did not reject became void. Of this latter class was King Charles's Charter to the Rhode Island Land Company.

You appear to think that Gov. King's party are quite willing to extend the Right of Suffrage to the people at large, and to give them leave to form a Constitution. I can only say that formerly, when the people humbly petitioned for legislative action in the premises, they were told that if they did not like to live under and pay taxes to a government responsible to the landholders only, they might leave the State; and that the proposed Constitution recently framed under the auspices of the landholders, conferred on less than one-third of the voters full power to elect a majority in both branches of the legislature; that is, one thousand voters in the pet townships were to elect a greater number of representatives than two or three thousand voters in the anti-aristocratic towns. The Landholders' Convention proposed that the town of Southfield, with a population of TEN THOUSAND should elect one Senator, while another town with a population of about EIGHT THOUSAND should elect TWO! This is the closest approximation to an extension of the Right of Suffrage that the Landholders have yet made. They are willing that all should vote, on condition that over two-thirds of the people's votes shall pass for nothing when they come to the canvass. A YANKEE LABORER.

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The authority exercised by Government over Minors—who form a majority of our Population—is not based upon any express consent on their part to the laws to which they are held amenable. So of the same authority exercised over Women. Here, then, we find that the Government has no right to interfere with the rights of the individual, and no law to enforce it."

Declaration, we have not a word of objection; but if you mean that it was, you contradict the most notorious facts. The question at issue is, 'What is the law?' We adduce facts: our opponent argues that they ought not to exist.

Whether the Landholders are or are not willing to grant a truly Populist Constitution; whether the Apportionment in the legal Constitution neutralized the Extension of Suffrage, are questions entirely foreign from the fundamental one at issue. We are sure our friend is misinformed on both points, and also wrong in his impression that any considerable proportion of the non-voters of Rhode Island have repeatedly petitioned for a Constitution. Beside, if he will but examine the matter, he will find that those portions of Rhode Island which he terms the aristocratic or pet townships, have hitherto been esteemed the Democratic; while Whig Providence, Warwick, &c. are negatively transformed into the Anti-Aristocratic. But let this pass. We need hardly say again that we are opposed to the unequal representation or 'rotten borough' system which he asserts was proposed in Rhode Island; but he must be well aware that the same, with Freehold Suffrage, and what is worse, double voting, exists in all its glory in Virginia, the mother of all Democracy, and the largest Van Buren State at the last Presidential Election. Suppose our friend desist from farther prosecution of the War on the Government of Rhode Island, (for we happen to know him as one of the Slamm Volunteers,) and try his hand with his Loco-Foco friends who constitute so large a majority of the Legislature of Virginia, to induce them to call a Convention and abolish the Aristocratic provisions of their Constitution. If he will undertake it by legal and peaceful means only, we will give him what little help we can; but we cannot say that the fundamental law of the land is so and so because we thus wish it. If he is arguing that the Rhode Island Charter is so bad that it ought to be overthrown by force if necessary, we do not dispute with him; we only try to make him see the radical difference between Constitutional Amendment and the ultimate Right of Revolution existing in all communities. We stand up for both; but we will not have them jumbled together.

We trust Congress will not be shaken by the loud and earnest clamors of the interested from carrying on the good work it has begun of retrenching the Expenditures of the Government by reducing our Army and Navy. We do not pretend to judge how and where this retrenchment should be effected, but the proposed cutting down of the Army, now that the Florida War is over, to 6,000 men, suits us admirably for one item. Let us be strictly just and peaceful, refrain from coveting what is our neighbors', robbing and overreaching the Indians, injuring Mexico, &c. &c. and a very small Peace Establishment will answer. But it is the clamor of the personally interested to overbear deliberate convictions of Public Duty, Congress will render itself the scorn of the Country. Go ahead!

Gov. CLEVELAND of Conn. declares that he will not give up Thomas W. Dorr, (should he be found in that State,) on the requisition of the Rhode Island Government. That is to say: he looks into the facts of the case, and decides that Mr. Dorr has committed no crime known to the laws of Connecticut, therefore he will not give him up as a fugitive felon. We are inclined to think this the right course; but what a row Gov. C's brethren raised when Gov. Secord did essentially the same thing!

LATE FROM NEW-GRENADE.—Capt. Martinez, of the brig New-Grenada, from Santa Martha, May 4th, arrived this morning, furnishes us with the following information:

The revolution had entirely ceased, order perfectly restored, and business begins to assume its wonted appearance.

An immense quantity of specie has been sent to England, forwarded by British men-of-war.

The following, being the principal leaders of the Revolution, have been sent out of the country:

Gen. F. Carmona, Frs. Martinez, Tronero, Acapito Lavarez, Gen. Santiago Marico, Colonel Gabriel Vegas, Dr. Antonio del Real, and Tomas del Real.

For MURDER.—On Friday last week, at Kingston, Canada West, came on the trial of Edward Coote and Jane Coote, for the murder of Margaret Moston, aged three years and a half, child of the latter by her first marriage. Edward Coote was formerly a soldier—married Mrs. Moston in March—always expressed dislike to the child and unwillingness to support her—was in the habit of beating her cruelly, and once was seen at the side of a ditch flagging the child and ordering her to jump in. This body of the child, when examined by the coroner and physicians, showed marks of severe burning, as if the little creature had been made to sit upon a hot iron; and finally it was proved that the mother refused to have medical assistance for the child, and that attempts were made to conceal her death, and her body after she was dead.

The heartless mother was acquitted, and Coote found guilty of manslaughter.

TEMPERANCE TO-NIGHT.—By referring to another column it will be seen that there is an attractive array of learning, talent and eloquence in the advocacy of Temperance To-Night, on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the City Temperance Society. We say to all, fail not to attend.

NEW-YORK WEEKLY TRIBUNE.—This week's paper, which may be obtained at our counter to-day, is one of unusual interest. Persons wishing to send a paper containing all the news of the week and a very large amount of literary and miscellaneous reading, will find the Weekly Tribune the paper to suit them. It may be had in wrappers ready for mailing. Price 6 cents.

CIRCASSIA.—A very interesting article from the May number of Blackwood.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—A beautiful sketch from the same number of Blackwood.

THE BARNES IN THE WOODS.—A thrilling and touching account of the two Lost Children in Nova Scotia.

EXPERIMENTS IN FIREWORK MAGNETISM.—An extraordinary case which occurred in Philadelphia.

THE SLAVERY QUESTION.—A continuation of this subject, being a general history of the whole question of Slavery in the United States, from the pen of Judge Wilkinson of Buffalo.

ASSOCIATION ARTICLES.—Reviews and literary articles for the week.

SKETCHES OF JAMES BUCHANAN and of LEVI WOODBURY, being further glimpses at the Senate.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.—From the Regular Reports, and from Private and Special Correspondents, containing the proceedings of both branches of Congress, and the Doings at Washington, &c.

EDITORIALS.—The Law of Organic Changes in Popular Governments, in which the whole question of the right to and manner of bringing about a change is fully discussed. The